National Catholic Theatre Conference

PRODUCTION CALENDAR

Vol. 6 December 1946 No. 3

NATIONAL CONVENTION - CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
JUNE 20, 1947 - JUNE 23, 1947

Catholic Theatre of Detroit, after making a thorough study of needs and facilities and attempting the preliminary work, has been forced, regretfully, to withdraw its invitation to the National Convention.

Although we, too, regret the change of announced plans, we are confident that the shift of scene will be a distinct advantage to many members - those who have never had an opportunity to visit the University as well as those who will be working there this summer. Conference members who attended the 1937 and 1939 national gatherings at Washington know that the celebration of our Tenth Anniversary at C U will guarantee its success.

Dates of the Convention, June 20 - June 23, cover the weekend prior to Summer Session registration.

Accommodations will be available on campus for religious and laity, and space has also been reserved at a convenient downtown hotel for those who may prefer it. A complete schedule of rates and accommodations will be sent to you shortly in order that your reservation may be placed early with the Service Bureau.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Fri., June 20	3 - 6 pm	Registration
	8 pm	Convocation
Sat., June 21	8:45 am	First Place to the Playwright
		Lighting the Stage
		Good Pictures of Your Play
	12 m	Lunch
	2 pm	Creative Dramatics for the Grade School
		Verse Choir and Choric Drama
		Quizzing the Radio Authorities
	4:30 pm	Motion Picture: Production of a Play, A-Z
	6 pm	Dinner
	8:30 pm	Catholic University Theatre Production
Sun., June 22	8:30 am	Solemn High Mass
	10 am	Communion Breakfast
	2 pm	Festivals Can Help
	3 pm	Community Theatre
		College and University Theatre
		High School Theatre
		CYO Theatre
	6 pm	Dinner
	8 pm	Business Meeting
Mon., June 23	9 am	New Executive Board Meeting
		Regional Meetings
	12 m	Lunch
	3 - 6 pm	Check Out

316 West 57 Street, New York, 19 Circle 7-0236

Established 1937

RADIO SCRIPT PRIZES

St. Genesius Players Guild, Montreal, is offering prizes of $50, $25 and $10 for 30-minute dramatic programs submitted prior to January 31, 1947.

The writers of the winning scripts must agree to allow the Guild to broadcast the play on its PLAY OF THE WEEK Program over CJAD, Montreal. Script writers are urged to apply to Miss D. Stone, Business Manager, St. Genesius Players Guild, 57 Arlington Ave., Westmount, Quebec, for official entry forms.

INVITATION TO ROME

Formal announcement has been received from Rome of a production in March at the official theatre in Vatican City of Emmet Lavery's SECOND SPRING. License contracts are also being drawn for an Italian film of the play about Newman. Both screen and stage adaptations are being made by Turi Vasile, and both productions are under the direction of Diego Fabbri. Mr. Lavery has been invited to Rome for the premiere of the play and to assist in the preparation of the film.

Mr. Lavery's THE FIRST LEGION is also on the 1947 schedule of Vatican City Theatre and Comedie Francaise. U.S. Department of State has been sponsoring production of it under the re-education program in Austria together with THE MAGNIFICENT YANKEE (seen on Broadway last year and now on U.S. tour with Louis Calhern as Justice Holmes).

COMMENCEMENT

The graduates of two Conference groups have inaugurated new community theatres. To the sponsors of the parent groups and the new organizations we offer congratulations and all good wishes for success.

The Community Players of Springfield, Ill., former Little Theatre Players, will offer ANGEL STREET in their first performance this month. Graduates of St. Mary's High School at deadline are in search of the play in which they will sponsor adult theatre in Niagara Falls.

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Increased costs have raised the price of the second edition of CHRISTMAS ON THE VILLAGE SQUARE, Rosary College publication, to 75¢. You may wish to note the change on analysis sheet sent you with December 1944 Production Calendar.

MARGIN NOTES

Those who met Rev. Roberto Saboia de Madeiros, S.J., two years ago when he was so energetically collecting material on Catholic social and cultural agencies in the U.S., will be happy to know that his exhibit has materialized and won favorable attention in Brazil. NCTC has been thanked graciously by The Social Action of Sao Paulo for its cooperation in helping to make known to the people of South America the activities of Catholics in the United States.

Marycrest College presented THE BARRETTS OF WIMPOLE STREET under Charles Costello's direction Nov. 24-25.

Joan Murphy, winner of a gold medal at the Mid-West Festival last spring in Academy of Holy Angels' entry, played an important role in THE PRINCESS MARRIES THE PAGE, presented by the Laboratory Players of College of St. Catherine for the 1-Day Drama Clinic Nov. 2.

Father Semper's article in the 1946 Bulletin is amplified in HAMLET WITHOUT TEARS - "the touchstone of Thomistic Philosophy applied to the problems of Hamlet" - just announced by Loras College Press.

For St. Cecilia Day the Campus Players of St. Mary of the Wasatch collaborated with the Glee Club to present Constance d'Arcy Mackaye's THE BEAU OF BATH and ASHES OF ROSES.

CYO-Springfield cooperated with National Recreation Association last month in the production of an inter-racial pageant which included speaking and singing choruses.

St. Louis University Playhouse Club is dividing its performances among public and private showings. Oct. 16 ARIA DA CAPO was presented for Club members only; Nov. 20, two Tchekov plays, THE PROPOSAL and THE ANNIVERSARY were opened to all University students; December's major production is the first public performance of the season.

Senior members of the Marian Players of St. Mary's High School, Chicago, produced three one-act plays, WINNING WAYS, GOOD WILL TOWARD WOMEN and SACRIFICE IN BROCADE, in competition for the honor of representing St. Mary's in the Festival at Loyola Academy Thanksgiving week end.

St. Teresa Academy, E. St. Louis, after a most successful home performance, took CAREER ANGEL to visit the Motherhouse and Orphanages in a 50-mile radius.

BROADWAY COMMENTS

by Mrs. Christopher Wyatt

American Repertory Theatre - The beautiful pageantry of HENRY VIII combined with the skillful staging of Margaret Webster does everything it can to cover the structural weakness of the play. Victor Jory striking as Henry, and good performances by Miss LeGallienne, Walter Hampden and Richard Waring.

WHAT EVERY WOMAN KNOWS - charming revival. If June Duprez lacks a twinkle, Richard Waring is a superlative John.

JOHN GABRIEL BORKMAN - a drear play directed and played by Miss LeGallienne in sombre tones brightened by a character study by Ernest Truex.

ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST - Miss Hellman shows the Little Foxes in their youth with a father who is the supreme villain. An unusually good cast in a melodramatic study of evil.

CYRANO DE BERGERAC - Jose Ferrer breathes vitality into this French classic in a performance that is a credit to him. The decor by Lemuel Ayers is not Ayers's best, but it is a handsome production with an intelligent cast.

FATAL WEAKNESS - George Kelly's latest comedy shows perception and characterization with Miss Ina Claire never more charming. It also marks the debut of Sydney Howard's daughter Jennifer.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY - With all the action at a bar Miss Loos's script owes everything to the versatile personality of Miss Helen Hayes, who transcends her rather sordid surroundings.

JOAN OF LORRAINE - Ingrid Bergman acts the great Saint with a wonderful humility and inspiration. The play is a discussion of faith tied up to modern life by having the director and actors voice their opinions during rehearsal. This Joan is closer to the Catholic Saint then Shaw's.

MADE IN HEAVEN - A surburban comedy of married life which brings continual chuckles from the audience, with Donald Cook as chief comedian.

PARK AVENUE - A satire on divorce in which so clever a trio as George Kaufman, Ira Gershwin and Arthur Schwartz just miss the mark in dialogue, music and lyrics.

PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD - Sympathetic production of Synge's classic with Eithne Dunne of Dublin unusually good as Pegeen. Burgess Meredith was best when dispirited and failed to rise to the higher moments, but his performance will undoubtedly develop.

PRESENT LAUGHTER - Third-rate Coward, first-rate Webb.

YOUR LIBRARY

New additions this month include: THE WINSLOW BOY, Terence Rattigan's comedy drama which is rumored for Broadway import after a successful London opening. SPRING, 1600, Emlyn Williams's comedy of the girl who posed as a boy that she might play in Richard Burbage's company.

INTERFERENCE by Pertwee and Dearden, an older but well recommended mystery. Maurice Baring's DIMINUTIVE DRAMAS. An adaptation of ALICE ADAMS by Trotter, published by Baker. BLESSING OF BANBA, three short plays of Irish Saints, also Baker's. Gordon Bottomley's CHORIC PLAYS. THE LILY OF THE MOHAWKS, by Rev. Edward LaMore, O.P., a play with music about Tekakwitha.

Library books are due 3 weeks from the date they leave NY (see date inside back cover); please help other members and us by returning loans promptly.

CROSS COUNTRY CIRCUIT

Chicago - Grex Guild, Rosary College, offers Lady Gregory's THE DRAGON Dec. 4 & 6. the first of individual Senior projects is scheduled for Dec. 15: Gheon's THE LITTLE MATCH GIRL (to be published in the near future).

Loyola Community Theatre announces the first play on its lecture-concert-drama series, WHAT A LIFE. Dec. 9 and 10.

Davenport - The Christmas program of Cameo Players, Immaculate Conception Academy, includes: THE KNAVE OF HEARTS, THURSDAYS AT HOME, and THE LADY OF THE CROSSROADS. Dec. 15.

Dayton - Dec. 21 at Memorial Hall, Blackfriars' Guild plays three shows (10, 1 and 3) of their condensed version of THE BIRDS' CHRISTMAS CAROL. Scripts have also been submitted to two other large firms, and it is likely that BF will also entertain at their Christmas parties.

Detroit - Marygrove Dramatic Society, collaborating with the Glee Club, will present Van Dyke's CHRISTMAS ANGEL.

CROSS COUNTRY CIRCUIT - DECEMBER
(continued)

E. St. Louis - St. Teresa Academy offers HOLY NIGHT on Dec. 18.

Grand Rapids - Mercian Dramatic Club, Mt. Mercy Academy, will offer an original sketch honoring Mother Catherine McAuley, Foundress, and THE QUEEN'S CHRISTMAS by Alice Gerstenberg, Dec. 12.

Kansas City - Dramasquers of Rockhurst College have chosen two one-act plays, THE SILENCE OF GOD and WHEN SHAKSPERE'S GENTLEMEN GET TOGETHER for performances Dec. 11-12.

Minneapolis - Laurence Houseman's Bethlehem will be staged by Juniors and Seniors of Academy of Holy Angels, Dec. 15.

Montreal - St. Genesius Players Guild will again offer Gheon's CHRISTMAS ON THE VILLAGE SQUARE. Father Legault, Director of Les Compagnons de Saint Laurent (by whom it is produced annually in French) will direct. Dec. 12-13.

New Rochelle - Props and Paint will produce Father Nagle's CATHERINE THE VALIANT Dec. 6, and will repeat CHRISTMAS ON THE VILLAGE SQUARE for the annual party bebefore Christmas vacation.

New York - Carroll Club Drama Group offers two performances of its traditional MYSTERY FOR CHRISTMAS (McKinney) and Thornton Wilder's THE LONG CHRISTMAS DINNER, Dec. 16-17

Fordham University Theatre presents an intimate revue, RAMBLINGS OF 1946, in the Penthouse Theatre Dec. 14---21. Marty Donovan and Jerry Kenyon have composed 12 bright new songs for the "musical scrapbook."

St. Joan of Arc Theatre Guild, Jackson Heights, presents KENTUCKY BELLE, an original musical comedy by Kenneth Lynch who directs the Guild players. Dec. 16-20

Philadelphia - SONG OF PEACE has been chosen by Convent of the Sacred Heart, Overbrook, for Dec. 17 performance, and Mother Keogh kindly returned two extra copies with the library manuscript,

THE DEAD SHALL RISE, a tragedy written and directed by Rev. Gerald Kernan, S.J. will be offered by Cap and Bells of St. Joseph's College, Dec. 12--14 at Players Theatre.

Racine - St. Catherine's High School Players, for the annual Children's Theatre program, offer THE SECRET GARDEN Dec. 7--14. Sister Honora writes of puppet robins and lambs, and even moving flower beds.

St. Joseph, Minn. - The Ardeleons, College of St. Benedict, will present THE BIRDS' CHRISTMAS CAROL, Dec. 15

St. Louis - THE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE by Saroyan is scheduled for Dec. 13--15 by The Playhouse Club of St. Louis U.

St. Mary of the Woods - The Players Club of St. Mary of the Woods College has invited the faculty and pupils of 135 high schools in the vicinity of Terre Haute to attend a One-Day Drama Clinic at the College Dec. 14. Rev. G. V. Hartke, O.P., will speak on High School Dramatics, and demonstration and discussion sessions will cover all stages of production. In the evening Players Club will present John Masefield's THE COMING OF CHRIST.

Salt Lake City - Grades 1, 2 and 3 at St. Mary of the Wasatch will offer their own Nativity Play after the fashion of the spontaneous BELLS OF ST. MARY scenes.

Springfield, Ill. - 12 Members of Springfield Little Theatre Players (total roll call 120 this season) will be admitted to Delta Psi Omega Dec. 6.

Tulsa - The Masquers of Monte Cassino have planned a series of tableaux in triptych form woven with Gospel narration and Christmas carols in which Junior and Senior Glee Clubs assist. Dec. 17. On Dec. 12 Masquers participate in a choric program of all Benedictine schools in Oklahoma on the Advent theme.

Washington - STATE OCCASION by Clinch Calkins opened Nov. 29 at Catholic University Theatre for three weeks run.

West Hartford, Ct. - Foundation Day, celebrated at Mt. St. Joseph Academy with a script newly revised by Sister Evelyn, will be followed a week later, Dec. 19, by afternoon and evening performances of Msgr. Benson's Nativity Play.

Queene's Companye will present the Annual St. Joseph College Play of Christ's Nativity on Dec. 16.

Wichita - Cathedral High School has selected Gheon's CHRISTMAS ON THE VILLAGE SQUARE for Dec. 17 performance.

Yankton - Sierra's HOLY NIGHT is scheduled for production at Mt. Marty on Dec. 15.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board will meet at the home of Mrs. Wyatt Friday, Dec. 27 at 10 am and will, if necessary, continue its session on Saturday, Dec. 28. All members have indicated they will attend.